

CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION

FOR THE PROPOSED PROJECT OF: Flaxton (Burke County), North Dakota

DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING FUND PROJECT NUMBER: 0700344-02

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) has conducted a review of the proposed Lead Service Line Replacement project for the City of Flaxton in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (40 CFR Part 6). The NDDEQ has determined that this project is eligible for a categorical exclusion and is exempt from further substantive environmental review.

Because the proposed project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion, a full Finding of No Significant Impact and Environmental Assessment will not be required. Following is a description of the proposed project and a brief statement of how the project meets the criteria for a categorical exclusion.

The proposed project consists of identification and replacement of lead service lines throughout the City of Flaxton. The city water system has significant portions that were installed prior to the 1950's that are aged and as a result, elevated levels of lead in drinking water has been discovered in some homes and buildings. Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

The proposed project will identify and replace the lead services lines throughout the City of Flaxton. The replacement of lead service lines will maximize water system safety and security by minimizing the amount of lead in the water system.

The City of Flaxton has applied for a Drinking Water State Revolving Fund loan of \$993,000 to finance the project. The city has the legal authority and financial and administrative capability to construct the proposed improvements.

This project is being granted an exclusion because the replacements will occur entirely in the alignment of the existing service lines. No previously undisturbed areas will be affected by the construction activities. The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer has concurred with a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected" for this project provided it takes place in the location and in the manner described in the documentation and provided all borrow comes from an approved source (ND SHPO Ref.: 21-5773). It has been determined that exempting the proposed project from further review under the National Environmental Policy Act will not result in adverse impacts to the population or area of Flaxton and Burke County.

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The documentation to support this decision will be on file and available for public review at the NDDEQ, Division of Municipal Facilities.

Comments concerning this decision may be addressed to Mitchell Murray, Environmental Engineer, Division of Municipal Facilities, North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, 4201 Normandy Street, 3rd Floor, Bismarck, ND, 58503-1324.

Dated the 16th day of September, 2021.

David J. Bruschwein, P.E.
Director
Division of Municipal Facilities